

# YOUNG LUNGS AT PLAY!

# 2018 TOOLKIT



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# Table of Contents

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1. How to Use the *Young Lungs at Play!* Toolkit
2. *Young Lungs at Play!* in 4 Steps

## YES:

Garner participation in *Young Lungs at Play!* from municipalities, recreation and youth organizations or school districts. Engage youth and school, community or recreation leaders to champion the program.

3. Letter #1: First Contact
4. Letter #2: Letter to Re-Connect Municipalities
5. Letter #3: Letter to Expand Current Tobacco-Free Policy
6. Letter #4: Letter to School Districts

## LEARN:

Educate community leaders and decision makers about the facts. Provide resources, information and support.

7. *Young Lungs at Play!* Program Description
8. *Young Lungs at Play!* Fact Sheet

## ACTION:

Implement 100% tobacco-free parks and playgrounds policy and request FREE *Young Lungs at Play!* signs. Communities and organizations that meet program criteria are eligible for signs.

9. Policy Checklist
10. Sample Ordinance
11. Sample Policy
12. Sample Resolution
13. Order Form

## PROMOTE:

Inform municipal staff and the community. Publish announcement in the local media.

14. Media Announcement Template
15. Press Release Template
16. Photo Release Form

## Additional Resources Attached

17. Overcoming Barriers, Resistance and Obstacles
18. Enforcement Statements
19. Young Lungs at Play: Preventing Children's Exposure to Secondhand Smoke in Outdoor Play Areas in a Steps to a Healthier NY County.

## How to use the *Young Lungs at Play!* Toolkit

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This comprehensive toolkit includes tools, templates and information on implementing effective policies and procedures to promote tobacco-free parks and recreational areas. Designed for community service organizations promoting *Young Lungs at Play!* to municipalities, school districts and sports and recreation organizations, this toolkit is in convenient downloadable PDF and Word formats. It will assist you in helping municipalities and sports and recreation commissions develop and enact local policies, resolutions or ordinances to ensure that all forms of tobacco use are prohibited where children play.



# *Young Lungs at Play!*

# Toolkit 2018

## *Yes...Learn...Action...Promote*

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### 1. YES:

Garner participation in *Young Lungs at Play!* from municipalities, recreation and youth organizations or school districts. Engage youth and school, community or recreation leaders to champion the program.

### 2. LEARN:

Educate community leaders and decision makers about the facts. Provide resources, information and support.

### 3. ACTION:

Implement 100% tobacco-free parks and playgrounds policy and request FREE *Young Lungs at Play!* signs. Communities and organizations that meet program criteria are eligible for signs.

### 4. PROMOTE:

Inform municipal staff and the community. Publish announcement in the local media.





## *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Letter #1

Send with YLAP Program Description & Fact Sheet.

[Insert your organization letterhead and contact information here.]

DATE

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,



[NAME OF YOUR PROGRAM HERE] invites all \_\_\_\_\_ County municipalities to join us in eliminating children's exposure to secondhand smoke at local public parks and playgrounds by participating in *Young Lungs at Play!*, a **no-cost** tobacco-free parks and playgrounds program supported by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

*Young Lungs at Play!* supports community efforts to protect the environment and the health of all residents, particularly our youth.

It's easy to participate in *Young Lungs at Play!* The first step is to invite the community government of [name of city, municipality or township] to adopt a policy, ordinance or resolution that prohibits the use of tobacco products in parks, playgrounds or where children play. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will support the community in its efforts to create tobacco-free policies by providing FREE *Young Lungs at Play!* signs to be posted in designated tobacco-free areas. The signs are attractive, self-enforcing and promote a positive tobacco-free message.

Policy initiatives such as these are effective ways to limit exposure to the dangers of secondhand smoke and unattractive tobacco litter.

For your review, I have enclosed a *Young Lungs at Play!* program description, fact sheet, and a sample ordinance. The *Young Lungs at Play!* sign will look like the logo above. You may contact the Kansas Department of Health and Environment about availability of signs to be posted in your community's playgrounds and parks. We will also be happy to attend meetings to provide more information about this program and can assist with publicity and promotion.

For more information about *Young Lungs at Play!*, please contact me at \_\_\_\_\_.  
I look forward to working with you on this important public health initiative.

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Enclosures: *Young Lungs at Play!* Program Description  
*Young Lungs at Play!* Fact Sheet  
Sample Ordinance

## *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Letter #2

Use to re-contact municipalities that did not respond to the first invitation.  
[Insert your organization letterhead and contact information here.]

DATE

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,



[NAME OF YOUR PROGRAM HERE] invites all \_\_\_\_\_ County municipalities to join us in eliminating children's exposure to secondhand smoke at local public parks and playgrounds by participating in *Young Lungs at Play!*, a **no-cost** tobacco-free parks and playgrounds program supported by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

*Young Lungs at Play!* supports community efforts to protect the environment and the health of all residents, particularly our youth.

It's easy to participate in *Young Lungs at Play!* The first step is to invite the community government of [name of city, municipality or township] to adopt a policy, ordinance or resolution that prohibits the use of tobacco products in parks, playgrounds or where children play. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will support the community in its efforts to create tobacco-free policies by providing FREE *Young Lungs at Play!* signs to be posted in designated tobacco-free areas. The signs are attractive, self-enforcing and promote a positive tobacco-free message.

Policy initiatives such as these are effective ways to limit exposure to the dangers of secondhand smoke and unattractive tobacco litter.

For your review, I have enclosed a *Young Lungs at Play!* program description, fact sheet, and a sample ordinance. The *Young Lungs at Play!* sign will look like the logo above. You may contact the Kansas Department of Health and Environment about availability of signs to be posted in your community's playgrounds and parks. We will also be happy to attend meetings to provide more information about this program and can assist with publicity and promotion.

For more information about *Young Lungs at Play!*, please contact me at \_\_\_\_\_.  
I look forward to working with you on this important public health initiative.

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Enclosures: *Young Lungs at Play!* Program Description  
*Young Lungs at Play!* Fact Sheet  
Sample Ordinance

# *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Letter #3

Send with YLAP Program Description & Fact Sheet.

[Insert your organization letterhead and contact information here.]

*Date*

Dear Mayor \_\_\_\_\_ & Members of City Council:

The members of [*Name of Your Organization*] want to thank City Council for its efforts to improve the health of all residents, especially our children, by making all of the city's playgrounds tobacco-free. We are proud of the leadership that [*Name of City*] has shown on this issue. In [*Month and Year*], the city becomes one of the first communities in \_\_\_\_\_ County to join *Young Lungs at Play!*; a statewide initiative to reduce tobacco use and exposure in outdoor, public places; especially places where children visit and play, by passing tobacco-free ordinances.

[*Name of City*] current ordinance prohibits the possession and use of tobacco products by any individual in the city's playgrounds. **We are here today to ask that you consider expanding the current ordinance to include all city park property.**

Tobacco-free parks and playgrounds are important! Tobacco use in public areas where children and adults are watching and engaging in outdoor recreation is detrimental to their health, pollutes the environment and increases maintenance costs.

Secondhand smoke contains a complex mixture of over 7000 chemicals, including at least 69 chemicals that are known cancer-causing agents.<sup>1</sup> The Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand smoke as a "Group A" carcinogen, meaning that there is no safe level of exposure.<sup>2</sup>

Please do not hesitate to call upon us to assist in this effort. Attached you will find more information about the importance of tobacco-free public places and the impact tobacco has on health and the environment.

Thank you in advance for taking action to make all our city's parks healthy places to play and enjoy for everyone.

Sincerely,

*Name*

*Title*



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General](#). Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking: Lung Cancer and Other Disorders](#). Washington, D.C.: Office of Health and Environmental Assessment, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1992.



5. Letter #3: Letter to Expand Current Tobacco-Free Policy  
*Young Lungs at Play!* Toolkit 2018

Enclosures: *Young Lungs at Play!* Program Description  
*Young Lungs at Play!* Fact Sheet  
Sample Policy

## *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Letter #4

Send with YLAP Program Description & Fact Sheet.

[Insert your organization letterhead and contact information here.]

*Date*

*Name*

*Address*

*City, State Zip*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,



\_\_\_\_\_ County school districts are invited to join us in eliminating children's exposure to secondhand smoke at local public parks and playgrounds by participating in *Young Lungs at Play!*, an evidence-based, statewide program adopted from successful initiatives in Rockland County, New York and Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. *Young Lungs at Play!* is a **no-cost** tobacco-free parks and playgrounds initiative supported through a grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

*Young Lungs at Play!* supports community efforts to protect the environment and the health of youth and all residents, including \_\_\_\_\_ County residents.

It's easy to participate in *Young Lungs at Play!* First, adopt a \_\_\_\_\_ School District policy or ordinance that prohibits the use of tobacco products at playgrounds and recreational fields or where children play.

We will support your school district in its efforts to create a tobacco-free policy and provide you with attractive, self-enforcing *Young Lungs at Play!* signs to be posted in designated tobacco-free areas.

Policy initiatives such as these are effective ways to limit exposure to the dangers of secondhand smoke and tobacco litter. Substantial spin-off effects include increased normalization of non-smoking behavior, decreased toxic litter in playgrounds and outdoor recreation areas and empowered nonsmokers promoting clean outdoor air.

For your review, I have enclosed a *Young Lungs at Play!* program description, fact sheet, and a sample ordinance. The *Young Lungs at Play!* sign appears above. We will also be happy to attend meetings to provide more information about this program and can assist with publicity and promotion.

For more information about *Young Lungs at Play!*, please contact me at \_\_\_\_\_. I look forward to working with you on this important public health initiative.

Sincerely,

*Name*

*Title*

Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Health Promotion

*Young Lungs at Play!* Toolkit 2018

6. Letter #4: Letter to School Districts  
*Young Lungs at Play!* Toolkit 2018

Enclosed:     *Young Lungs at Play!* Program Description  
                  *Young Lungs at Play!* Fact Sheet  
                  Sample Ordinance

# *Young Lungs at Play!* Program Description

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## Prevent Children's Exposure to Secondhand Smoke

Municipalities, school districts, youth sports organizations and other groups are invited to join the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in eliminating children's exposure to secondhand smoke at public parks and playgrounds. Policy initiatives are key strategies in influencing community norms and effective ways to limit exposure to the dangers of secondhand smoke. This initiative protects the environment and protects the health of all. We will support you as you work to create tobacco-free parks and playgrounds.

## Join *Young Lungs at Play!* In 3 Easy Steps:

1. **Implement** a local 100% tobacco-free ordinance, policy or resolution in public areas where children play. Identify the specific areas within the park or playground being covered and include:
  - A statement that all forms of tobacco use and electronic smoking devices are prohibited;
  - An enforcement plan; and
  - A communications plan for informing the public of the policy.
2. **Apply** to participate in *Young Lungs at Play!*
3. **Install** *Young Lungs at Play!* signs in designated areas.

## *Young Lungs at Play!* Resources:

Local staff or volunteers may attend your meetings and provide *Young Lungs at Play!* Information: sample ordinances, policies, or resolutions, and sample press releases to notify the general community and media.

## *Young Lungs at Play!* Signs:

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has a supply of standard pre-imprinted 12" x 18" metal signs to place in your tobacco-free area(s) after implementing a tobacco-free parks policy.

For more information about *Young Lungs at Play!* visit the website [http://www.kdheks.gov/tobacco/young\\_lungs.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/tobacco/young_lungs.htm) or contact: [KSsmokefree@ks.gov](mailto:KSsmokefree@ks.gov)

# *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Fact Sheet

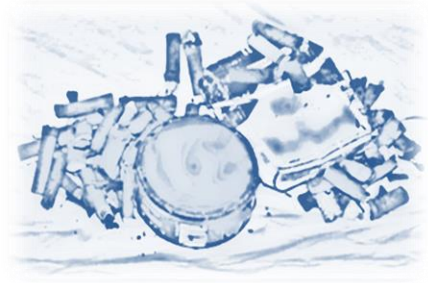
### Tobacco-Free Parks and Playgrounds Are Important

Many communities have instituted outdoor tobacco-free ordinances at parks, zoos, athletic fields, playgrounds, trails and even city sidewalks and streets as a way to protect both children and the environment.

### Tobacco-Free Parks are Clean Parks

#### **Cigarette butts are the most littered item in the world.<sup>1</sup>**

Discarded cigarettes and other forms of tobacco are toxic, hazardous to the environment and costly to cleanup. When washed into creeks and streams, tobacco waste is a toxic pollutant that does not decompose easily; it takes decades! Small children and animals are at risk of swallowing, choking, or burning themselves with discarded butts and poisoning themselves with the drug nicotine. Tobacco waste makes parks and playgrounds look dirty and uninviting. Tobacco-free parks provide children with clean and healthy places to play.



### Children are hurt by secondhand smoke!

**Exposure to secondhand smoke has been estimated to result in 41,000 annual deaths in the United States and causes health problems in children including respiratory infections, more frequent and severe asthma attacks, ear infections and sudden infant death syndrome.<sup>2</sup>**

Secondhand smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals known to be harmful or carcinogenic (cancer-causing), including formaldehyde, benzene, vinyl chloride, arsenic, ammonia, and hydrogen cyanide.<sup>2</sup> The Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand smoke as a class-A carcinogen: a substance known to cause cancer in humans and many serious illnesses in children.<sup>3</sup>

**Children who are exposed to secondhand smoke are inhaling many of the same cancer-causing substances as smokers.** There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure. Even brief exposures can be harmful. The only way to fully protect yourself and your loved ones from the dangers of secondhand smoke is through 100% smoke-free environments.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Novotny TE, Zhao F. Consumption and production waste: another externality of tobacco use. *Tob Control*. 1999 Spring;8(1):75-80.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress. A Report of the Surgeon General](#). Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014 [accessed 2016 Nov 17]).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking: Lung Cancer and Other Disorders](#). Washington, D.C.: Office of Health and Environmental Assessment, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1992.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2006.

## Children Imitate Adult Behaviors

How do children learn to walk? To talk? To play sports? From adults! Every year in Kansas, nearly 1,500 children under the age of 18 become new daily smokers.<sup>5</sup> When children see adults smoking in family-friendly places such as parks and playgrounds, they see the behavior as acceptable. Parks are about clean air, natural beauty and engaging in healthy activities. Smoking just doesn't fit in.

## Tobacco-Free Outdoor Areas

Most Kansas adults, about 83%, **DO NOT** smoke.<sup>6</sup> Tobacco-free policies that restrict tobacco use where children play help to protect the health of all community members.

Tobacco-free policies are public park policies similar to those prohibiting alcohol use or littering in public parks and are largely self-enforcing.

Posting adequate signage provides an opportunity to educate the community about the tobacco-free policy and allows individuals to handle tobacco use in the same manner as an alcohol or litter complaint that may occur at these facilities.



Help to prevent children's exposure to secondhand smoke at outdoor public play places. Supporting a tobacco-free ordinance in your city will make a difference in the health and welfare of all community members.

Thank you.

To request *Young Lungs at Play!* signs, or for a sample ordinance, please contact: [KSsmokefree@ks.gov](mailto:KSsmokefree@ks.gov)



<sup>5</sup> The Toll of Tobacco in Kansas, *Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids*, Last updated November 17, 2017

<sup>6</sup> 2016 Kansas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Health Promotion.



## Young Lungs at Play!

## Policy Checklist

Date of Policy Review	
Name of Municipality/Organization	
Address	
County	



1. What type of policy statement was enacted?
  - a. Ordinance
  - b. Resolution
  - c. Policy
2. Does the policy (policy/ordinance/resolution):
  - a. Include a statement that all forms of tobacco use are prohibited?
  - b. Identify the parks or areas within parks designated tobacco-free?
3. Was a copy obtained?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
4. How many parks and/or locations are covered by the policy?
5. How many YLAP signs are requested?
6. Does the policy include an **enforcement plan** that states how violations will be addressed?
7. Does the policy include a **communications plan** for informing the public?

Service provider made request for municipality/organization to strengthen policy on \_\_\_\_\_.

Date of Contact:

Final revision/date:

Other comments:

Name of Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_.

## Young Lungs at Play!

## Sample Ordinance

ORDINANCE NUMBER \_\_\_, 20\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF (NAME OF MUNICIPALITY), COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ AND STATE OF KANSAS, PROHIBITING THE USE OF TOBACCO IN RECREATIONAL AREAS, PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF:**

**THE MUNICIPALITY'S PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WILL SERVE TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE CITIZENS OF (NAME OF MUNICIPALITY).**

**WHEREAS**, the *(Municipal Council)* acknowledges that secondhand tobacco smoke poses a threat to the health, safety and welfare of adults and minor children; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Surgeon General has determined that there is no safe level of exposure to tobacco smoke pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, secondhand tobacco smoke is responsible for nearly 41,000 deaths among nonsmokers each year; and

**WHEREAS**, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, illegal drugs, homicide, suicide, car accidents, fire and AIDS combined; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 90% of smokers started smoking before the age of 18, and the average initiation age is 15 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, every year in Kansas, an estimated 1,500 young people under the age of 18 years become new daily smokers and 61,000 children now under 18 years will die prematurely from smoking; and

**WHEREAS**, the (Municipal) Council desires to discourage tobacco use and promote the public health by making Municipality owned parks, playgrounds and recreational fields "tobacco-free zones."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the (Municipal Council of \_\_\_\_\_) and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same as follows:

**Section 1: DESIGNATED TOBACCO-FREE AREAS:** That the areas of parks and playgrounds where children are present including *(list areas specific to your community: picnic areas, sports and athletic fields, concert venues, etc.)* in the Municipality of \_\_\_\_\_ be designated tobacco-free and the use of any tobacco product\* **or electronic cigarette**, in any form, shall be prohibited hereafter.

**Section 2: APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE** will be posted delineating the tobacco-free areas.

**Section 3: ENFORCEMENT:** *Please insert the specific statement or penalty(ies) for violation of this Ordinance.*

Council hereby authorizes its elected and appointed officials to take whatever steps are necessary for full participation and compliance with the Young Lungs at Play Program and/or other such programs of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

**Section 4: THE COMMUNITY SHALL BE NOTIFIED OF THIS ORDINANCE.**

SAMPLE

**\*“TOBACCO PRODUCT” INCLUDES:**

- (a) Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff<sup>1</sup>; and
- (b) **Any electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substances** to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah.
- (c) Notwithstanding any provision of subsections (a) and (b) to the contrary, “tobacco product” includes any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product, whether or not sold separately. “Tobacco product” does not include any product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco cessation product or for other therapeutic purposes where such product is marketed and sold for such an approved purpose.

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<sup>1</sup> This list of products is subject to adjustment to conform to terms used in specific state or local laws.

# Young Lungs at Play!

# Sample Policy

City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization of \_\_\_\_\_

## GUIDELINE STATEMENT

The \_\_\_\_\_ City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization Parks and Recreation Tobacco-Free Policy is designed to protect the health welfare and safety of our park patrons.

## POLICY STATEMENT

The City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization of \_\_\_\_\_ is committed to providing a high quality of living for all residents. Therefore, we believe that:

1. Tobacco products\* used in proximity of children, youth, and adults engaging in or watching recreational activities are unhealthy and detrimental to the health of others.
2. Tobacco products\* consumed in public spaces are often discarded on the ground, thus posing a risk of ingestion to toddlers and causing a litter problem.
3. As parents, leaders, coaches and officials, we are thought of as role models, and the use of tobacco products\* around youth has a negative effect on their lifestyle choices.

## TOBACCO-FREE FACILITIES

The City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization of \_\_\_\_\_ does not allow the use of tobacco products\*, including electronic cigarettes, on City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization owned park land, park facilities, open space or joint City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization school district properties.

## COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

The emphasis on enforcing the Tobacco-Free Park policy is through voluntary compliance:

1. Appropriate town owned park land, park facilities, open space or joint town/school district properties will post *Young Lungs at Play!* signage.
2. City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization staff will meet with organizations and/or leaders or coaches to discuss the policy and to distribute flyers with the “tobacco-free” regulations.
3. City/Township/Borough/Municipality/Organization staff will make periodic observations of activity sites to monitor compliance and help to promote awareness of the tobacco-free policy.

Policy Adoption Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor/Council/Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Seal

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*“TOBACCO PRODUCT” INCLUDES:**

- (a) Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff<sup>1</sup>; and
- (b) **Any electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substances** to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah; and
- (c) Notwithstanding any provision of subsections (a) and (b) to the contrary, “tobacco product” includes any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product, whether or not sold separately. “Tobacco product” does not include any product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco cessation product or for other therapeutic purposes where such product is marketed and sold for such an approved purpose.

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<sup>1</sup> This list of products is subject to adjustment to conform to terms used in specific state or local laws.



## Young Lungs at Play!

## Sample Resolution

### THE (NAME OF MUNICIPALITY) AGREES TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO CREATE TOBACCO-FREE AREAS AT LOCAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

**WHEREAS**, almost 22 million children are exposed to secondhand smoke and the U.S. Surgeon General has stated that there is NO SAFE LEVEL OF EXPOSURE, whether indoors or outdoors, and that children's exposure to secondhand smoke causes increased risk of sudden infant death syndrome, lower respiratory infections, middle ear diseases, more severe asthma, respiratory symptoms and slowed lung growth; and

**WHEREAS**, secondhand smoke is responsible for over 41,000 deaths among nonsmokers each year; and

**WHEREAS**, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, illegal drugs, homicide, suicide, car accidents, fire and AIDS combined; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 90% of smokers started smoking before the age of 18, and the average initiation age is 15 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, every year in Kansas, an estimated 1,500 young people under the age of 18 years become new daily smokers and 61,000 children now under 18 years will die prematurely from smoking; and

**WHEREAS**, to help role model nonsmoking behavior to children and youth; to provide children, youth and their families with a safe, smoke-free environment;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Council of the *(Municipality)*, County of \_\_\_\_\_, and State of Kansas, as follows:

1. That the areas of *(name of parks and playgrounds)* within the *(Municipality)* where children are present shall be designated as tobacco-free and the use of any tobacco product\* **or electronic cigarette**, in any form, shall be prohibited hereafter;
2. Appropriate signage shall be posted to designate said tobacco-free areas;
3. The residents of *(Municipality)* shall be notified of this Resolution and the designation of the tobacco-free zones as stated herein;
4. Any person in violation of this Resolution shall be: *(identify action to be taken or penalty to be imposed)*; and

Council hereby authorizes its elected and appointed officials to make periodic observations of tobacco-free areas to monitor compliance and promote awareness of this Resolution.

**\*“TOBACCO PRODUCT” INCLUDES:**

- (a) Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff<sup>1</sup>; and
- (b) **Any electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substances** to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah.
- (c) Notwithstanding any provision of subsections (a) and (b) to the contrary, “tobacco product” includes any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product, whether or not sold separately. “Tobacco product” does not include any product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco cessation product or for other therapeutic purposes where such product is marketed and sold for such an approved purpose.

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## Young Lungs at Play!

## Order Form



**Date:**

**Name: (Municipality or Organization)**

**Address: (Municipality or Organization)**

**County:**

**Zip (include all zip codes where signs will be placed):**

**Type of policy enacted:**

**(Attach a copy)**

☐ **Policy**

**Date of Policy:**

☐ **Ordinance**

**Date of Ordinance:**

☐ **Resolution**

**Date of Resolution:**

**How many parks, playgrounds or rec areas will be covered by this policy?**

**List all recreational areas or playgrounds where signs will be posted:**

**(Attach separate sheet if necessary.)**

**Contact Person:**

**Phone:**

**E-mail:**

**# of Young Lungs at Play! signs requested:**

**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:**

**[KSsmokefree@ks.gov](mailto:KSsmokefree@ks.gov) or your regional Community Health Specialist**

## *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Media Announcement

### **(XYZ) County Kicks Off Tobacco-Free Playgrounds Initiative**

[Name of City or County, KS] – Visiting your local playground or recreational field may soon be a more enjoyable experience without cigarette butts littering the ground or the smell of tobacco smoke in the air. *Young Lungs at Play!* is an initiative promoting tobacco-free and smoke-free public parks and playgrounds for young people.



*Young Lungs at Play!* aims to eliminate children's exposure to secondhand smoke and vapors produced by electronic smoking devices at local public parks, playgrounds and playing fields by educating community service organizations, municipalities, school districts and county government agencies. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is promoting the *Young Lungs at Play!* initiative throughout Kansas communities to coordinate tobacco-free parks and playgrounds. The initiative also provides no-cost weather-resistant *Young Lungs at Play!* signs to be posted in those recreation areas.

"This is an important health initiative for our community" said [NAME OF EDUCATOR]. "An estimated 41,000 Americans die each year from lung cancer and heart disease attributable to secondhand smoke exposure."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency classifies tobacco smoke as a Class-A carcinogen and the Surgeon General reports that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke, a pollutant that causes serious illness in adults and children. There is also indisputable evidence that implementing 100% smoke-free environments is the only effective way to protect the population from the harmful effects of exposure to secondhand smoke. Children are at particular risk for asthma, respiratory infections and cardiovascular disease when exposed to tobacco smoke.

Outdoor tobacco use has an environmental impact as well. Cigarette butts are one of the most littered items in the world. Tobacco waste is costly to clean up and has the potential to poison our waterways, animals and people. Participating in *Young Lungs at Play!* is an opportunity for organizations to promote the health of their community. Young people seeking to become engaged in community service learning activities, such as completing high school projects or earning Eagle Scout leadership awards, are encouraged to promote *Young Lungs at Play!*.

For more information about participating in *Young Lungs at Play!*, contact \_\_\_\_\_ at [Organization] at [phone number] and [email address]. *Young Lungs at Play!* is supported by \_\_\_\_\_ [Organization] and funded through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

###

**EDITORS:** Contact NAME at phone #, or by e-mail at \_\_\_\_\_.

# Young Lungs at Play!

## Press Release

### INSERT YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

For more information, contact:  
*Name and Telephone Number*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Indicate on or before date \_\_\_\_\_



### City of \_\_\_\_\_ joins *Young Lungs at Play!* initiative

*Name of City, KS:* [Name of Your Organization] in \_\_\_\_\_ County is proud to welcome [Name of City] to the growing list of \_\_\_\_\_ County communities who have joined *Young Lungs at Play!*, an initiative to make public parks, playing fields and playgrounds tobacco-free. A kick-off event will be held at [Time, Date and Location of Kickoff Event].

[Name of Your Organization] invites all \_\_\_\_\_ County cities, municipalities, school districts and county government to join [Name of City] in eliminating children's exposure to secondhand smoke at local public parks, playgrounds and playing fields by participating in *Young Lungs at Play!*. This initiative will help protect the environment and the health of all \_\_\_\_\_ County residents.

The initiative assists municipalities to designate parks, playgrounds and recreation fields tobacco-free. [Name of Your Organization] then provides the municipality with weather-resistant *Young Lungs at Play!* signs that can be posted in those tobacco-free public areas.

For more information about *Young Lungs at Play!*, contact [Name of Organization] in \_\_\_\_\_ County at [telephone number and e-mail address] or visit [<insert web link>]. This program is supported by \_\_\_\_\_ and funded through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

###

### Photograph included in press release

### Insert Picture Here

**Caption:** [Name of Your Organization members] display *Young Lungs at Play!* signs that will be posted at [location of parks, playgrounds or recreational fields] in [Name of City] on [date of event]. *Young Lungs at Play!* is an initiative that promotes tobacco-free public parks and playgrounds.

*Pictured (l-r) front row: Names of individuals pictured*  
*Back row: names of individuals pictured*

## *Young Lungs at Play!*

## Audio/Visual Release Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission to have my image/voice and my child's image/voice used by  
\_\_\_\_\_ for educational purposes.

I understand that my image/voice may be used in a presentation to help illustrate and explain the educational programs of  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of child: \_\_\_\_\_





## *Young Lungs at Play!*      Overcoming Barriers

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While there have been many positive responses to the YLAP program, program advocates have encountered barriers and obstacles to implementation. Anticipate and prepare for these common barriers.

**Examples of several obstacles and possible responses include:**

**Concern:** *Municipalities are concerned that a restriction of tobacco use will discourage people from using the parks particularly facilities that are rented.*

**Response:** Most Kansas adults, about 83 percent, do not use tobacco. Tobacco use in a playground or recreation area contradicts the intended use of the area which is to promote healthy and safe activities for all members of the community. Tobacco is neither a healthy or safe activity for children.

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**Concern:** *Enforcement issues are a primary concern particularly for low income financially distressed communities that are reducing law enforcement staff.*

**Response:**

1. Ask the governing board if they currently have an ordinance to prohibit alcohol use in parks and playgrounds. Alcohol, like tobacco, is another legal drug. Invite the board to implement the same enforcement policy currently used to control alcohol to the new tobacco ordinance.
  2. YLAP has the ability to be self-enforcing. Individuals can help enforce the policy when YLAP signs are posted. The signs are attractive, not confrontational and because they include the Kansas Tobacco Quitline and website, are helpful to individuals seeking to quit tobacco.
- 

**Concern:** *Taxpayers have a right to use and enjoy the park as they like. People use the park at lunch time to relax. Since they are not allowed to smoke inside, they need a place to smoke outdoors.*

**Response:** Restricting tobacco use is not a rights issue, it is a public health issue. Most Kansans do not use tobacco yet tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death and disability in the United States including thousands of children exposed to tobacco smoke pollution.

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**Concern:** *Hi! The information presented by the students was brought up to Council. They have decided at this time to not move forward with any action regarding changing our policies toward smoking. The concern is enforcement. Council could not rationalize how they would deem certain parks and events as nonsmoking while having other recreation areas and events with smoking. We allow smoking at our outdoor facilities and it is enjoyed at Mt. Odin, Summer Sounds, and Community Days as well as at ball games at Lynch Field. Council was concerned about having constituents police each other as this can lead to arguments, and ultimately, police action. The hope is that common courtesy would reign. The other issue with enforcement is cost. I believe you told us that signage would be provided at no cost, however, we would still incur costs with introducing the new law, advertising it and enforcing it via police action. We simply cannot afford it. While many of us in city government think this is a worthy cause, we simply cannot afford the change. I applaud you and the students for their efforts. They gave an informative organized presentation with factual data. I hope this will not discourage them from continuing to educate others about the effects of smoking. Good luck to you and the students in your efforts.*

**Response:** We may not realize success in every community. This is the second time that a tobacco-free policy has been presented to the city council. Both times it was rejected and for the same reasons. There are several issues that represent obstacles:

1. Enforcement: citizen police; police action & cost.
2. The statement “We allow smoking at our outdoor facilities and it is enjoyed....” Suggests that other issues may be in play.
3. We intend to ask the students to reflect upon how they feel about their request being rejected and to have them write personal letters to the council. Several responses to council include:
  - a. The city has a strong ordinance prohibiting alcohol in parks and recreational areas. Like alcohol, tobacco is a drug. A significant difference; however, is that tobacco kills more Americans every year including children and nonsmokers.
  - b. Most Kansans do not smoke. Parks are intended to be healthy places for children to play. Allowing some people to enjoy smoking in these areas puts all people’s health at risk. Tobacco smoke is a Class A carcinogen which means that it definitely causes cancer in humans. The Surgeon General reports that there is no safe level of exposure even in outdoor areas.
  - c. The communities that have implemented *Young Lungs at Play!* have not experienced conflicts from citizens or police. Enclosed is an “Honor Roll” of communities with tobacco-free park policies. These communities will be able to provide information on the success of the program.

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**Concern:** *After last night's meeting, the motion to make a resolution for the Young Lungs at Play! was not passed. Without us being able to enforce this properly, it was denied. (Note: It passed 6 months later when council reintroduced it.)*

**Response:** I am sorry to hear that it didn’t pass, but I appreciate you notifying me. I understand that enforcement is a consideration. I was hopeful that the council would see the signs as a way to help enforce the policy. When people see the signs, most will honor them and the signs provide parents and families with the opportunity to help enforce the policy as well. An enforcement policy can be as simple as asking violators to leave the park. Consider the policy you may currently have in place for alcohol, another legal drug. While an enforcement policy is encouraged it is not as important as a policy protecting our youth from the health consequences of breathing tobacco smoke, the

environmental risks associated with tobacco use or the message that we send to our young people. When tobacco use is allowed in family friendly places such as parks and playgrounds, the message to youth is that tobacco use is an acceptable behavior. More and more communities are implementing in *Young Lungs at Play!*. I know that there are citizens that support this initiative. I hope that the council reconsiders. Please do not hesitate to call upon me if I can answer questions or respond to concerns regarding implementation of *Young Lungs at Play!*. Thank you for the opportunity to present the program. I look forward to meeting you again.

---

**Concern:** *It was mostly about restrictions – people wanted to be able to "step away" from an area where children were playing – and smoke.....discretely. The effectiveness of this approach, of course, depends on the level of discretion a person has – a tossup! Adults use the parks for relaxation, i.e., they may take a walk, have their lunch at a picnic table, etc. They may also think that "these parks are public places – paid for and supported by my tax dollars – I should be able to do what I want there." By the way.....some of our parks are located on city property – but some are privately owned – they don't know that. It's a basic infringement on their rights. They forget how their behavior infringes on the kids rights to play in a healthy environment. It may have also been that "all or nothing" that scared them as well – rather than just restricted in certain areas – which is the approach we have been using before. That didn't work either. We'd need smoking police. They also asked how we would enforce the ordinance. Would local police have to do it – they didn't want to. It is a bit understandable from that perspective. We have other park rules that our local police will not enforce as well (dogs in the park, playing mud football on athletic fields, etc.). From their perspective – they don't see these behaviors as violations.*

**Response:** Of all the restrictions you listed, none of them are more damaging to public health than tobacco. It is the leading cause of preventable death and disability in the U.S. and children are at particular risk.

## *Young Lungs at Play! Enforcement Statements*

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### **ORDINANCE NO. 2010 – 02**

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SMOKING IN PARKS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF \_\_\_\_\_; REQUIRING ENFORCEMENT BY THE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ITS PROVISIONS.**

**BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the Board of Supervisors of \_\_\_\_\_ Township, \_\_\_\_\_ County, Kansas, as follows:

**SECTION 3. Enforcement.** The Township Police Department shall enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4. Penalties.** The penalty for violation of this Ordinance shall be as follows:

FIRST OFFENSE: \$25.00 plus costs

SECOND OFFENSE: (within one calendar year) \$50.00 plus costs

THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES: (within one calendar year) \$100.00 plus costs

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### **ORDINANCE NO. 2007 – 16**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, KANSAS, REGULATING THE USE AND ENJOYMENT BY THE PUBLIC OF PARK, PLAYGROUND, AND RECREATIONAL GROUNDS OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE BOROUGH FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

#### **SECTION 5: Penalty for Violations**

- a) Any person who violates the above rules and regulations commits a summary offense
- b) Any person who shall be found guilty of a violation of this ordinance, upon summary conviction thereof before a District Justice, shall pay a fine of no more than One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars per violation and the cost of prosecution, including but not limited to attorney's fees and court costs, and, in default of payment of such fine and costs of prosecution, shall undergo imprisonment of not more than ten (10) days, provided
- c) All fines and penalties collected for the violation hereof shall be paid to the Borough Treasurer
- d) The Borough, by means of other appropriate legal proceeding, including a complaint in equity, may compel any person to comply with the above rules and regulations or seek any such other relief as any court of competent jurisdiction is empowered to afford.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2008 – 558**

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SMOKING AND THE CARRYING OF LIGHTED OBJECTS ON CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF [XXX]; PROHIBITING CHEWING TOBACCO ON CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF [XXX], REQUIRING ENFORCMENT BY THE BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ITS PROVISIONS.**

**BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the Borough Council of \_\_\_\_\_ Borough, \_\_\_\_\_ County, Kansas, as follows:

**SECTION 4. Enforcement.** The Borough Police Department shall enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 5. Penalties.** The penalty for violation of this Ordinance shall be as follows:

FIRST OFFENSE: \$25.00 plus costs

SECOND OFFENSE: within one calendar year \$50.00 plus costs

THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES: within one calendar year \$100.00 plus costs

---

**RESOLUTION NO 2011 – 9**

**A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING TOBACCO IN PARKS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF \_\_\_\_\_, REQUIRING ENFORCEMENT BY THE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF ITS PROVISIONS.**

**SECTION 3. Enforcement.** The Township Police Department shall enforce the provisions of this resolution.

**SECTION 4. Penalties.** Violators will be immediately ejected from the park or recreational facility.

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**ORDINANCE #12062010-01**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF \_\_\_\_\_ AMENDING THE CODIFIED BOOK OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 1060 PARKS**

Be it enacted and ordained by the Council of the Borough of \_\_\_\_\_ and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same.

**Violation and Penalties.**

Any person violating or failing to comply with any provision of this Article shall, upon conviction thereof for a first offense, be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100, or by community service

of not more than 2 days, for a second offense, be punishable by a fine of not more than \$250, or by community service of not more than 5 days, for a third offense, be punishable by a fine of not less than \$500, or by community service of not less than 10 days, or any combination of fine, imprisonment, and community service determined by the District Justice.

---

The Borough of \_\_\_\_\_ agrees to the adoption of the following resolution to create tobacco-free zones at local parks and playgrounds.

Appropriate signage will be posted designated tobacco-free areas.

The community will be notified of this resolution.

Violators will be immediately ejected from the park or recreational facility.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 4 – 2010**

**THE BOROUGH OF \_\_\_\_\_ AGREES TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO CREATE TOBACCO-FREE ZONES AT LOCAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.**

**WHEREAS**, violators will be immediately ejected from the park or recreational facility. Any further violations will result under Section 3 of the Nuisance Ordinance No. 610.

**THEREFORE**, the Borough of \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of Kansas, resolves as follows:

That the areas of parks and playgrounds where children are present such as \_\_\_\_\_ Park, \_\_\_\_\_ Park, and the Borough's recreation area, including the Community Pool, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Borough of \_\_\_\_\_, be designated tobacco-free.

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**\_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2 – 2011**

The community will be notified of this resolution through a press release in the \_\_\_\_\_ newspaper. Violators will be asked to move from the playground areas of \_\_\_\_\_ Park.

**TOWNSHIP OF \_\_\_\_\_**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, KANSAS**  
**RESOLUTION #2010 – 06**

Appropriate signage will be posted designating tobacco-free areas and the community will be notified of this resolution.

Violators will be immediately ejected from the community building, playground, parking lot or park complex upon refusing to refrain from tobacco use.

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**\_\_\_\_\_ AREA**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The use of tobacco products by classified school employees during the course of their employment is prohibited on or in school property.

Employees violating this policy shall be subject to such disciplinary measures as permitted by law.

---

**Parks & Recreation Department**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ County, KS**

***COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES***

The emphasis on enforcing the Tobacco-Free Park policy is through voluntary compliance:

1. At county owned playgrounds, park buildings or facilities, \_\_\_\_\_ County Parks and Recreation Department will post *Young Lungs at Play!* Signage.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ County Parks and Recreation Department staff will meet with groups, organizations and the public to discuss the policy and to distribute information concerning the “Tobacco-Free” regulations.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ County Parks and Recreation Department staff will make periodic observations of playgrounds and facilities to monitor compliance and help to promote awareness of the tobacco-free policy.

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**\_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL DISTRICT**

A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined by to \$50 plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of a fine.

**ORDINANCE NO. 663**

An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 313 of July 8, 1958 and Ordinance No. 535 of February 18, 1986, adding a provision prohibiting tobacco use of any kind on any property, including all recreational areas, the community center and park property, owned or leased by the Borough of \_\_\_\_\_ and increasing the fines for all violations.

Any person who shall violate any of the rules and regulations contained in the third section of this ordinance shall be fined \$300.00 for each and every offense, and each and every offense will constitute a separate violation. These violations may be issued by the local police department, the state police department, or the code enforcement officer.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 247**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF \_\_\_\_\_, COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_, AND STATE OF KANSAS, PROHIBITING THE USE OF TOBACCO ON ANY PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF \_\_\_\_\_, INCLUDING RECREATIONAL AREAS AND PARK PROPERTY.

Any person who is convicted of violating this Ordinance before the District Magistrate Judge shall be subject to a fine of \$50.00 to \$100.00 together with costs. The fine for a subsequent offense shall be \$300.00 together with costs.

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**COMMISSIONERS' BILL NO. 2 OF 2008**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ KANSAS, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 105 OF 1991, REGULATING SMOKING IN ALL PUBLIC PLACES AND WORK PLACES AND ON ALL PUBLIC GROUNDS OWNED OR OPERATED BY \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PROPER COUNTY OFFICIALS TO POST APPROPRIATE NOTICE AS TO SUCH RESTRICTIONS AND REGULATIONS; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

**SECTION IV: Penalty**

- a) Violation of this Ordinance shall be punishable as provided for in the Act.
- b) Employees' first and second violations shall be punishable as provided for in the Act; Further, written reprimands will be placed in the personnel file, a third violation subjects employee to automatic termination.



**AN ORDINANCE**

OF THE CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ EXPANDING PROHIBITION OF THE POSSESSION AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS BY MINORS IN SPECIFIED LOCATIONS AND PROHIBITING ALSO THE USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN ALL CITY PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS.

**SECTION 3**

A violation of this Ordinance shall be a summary offense, and any person who violates same shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$100.00

**SECTION 6**

Enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be the responsibility of the Police Department which has jurisdiction and enforcement powers within the City of \_\_\_\_\_.

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\_\_\_\_\_ PARKS: AT THE JULY MEETING THE SUPERVISORS DISCUSSED INFORMATION RECEIVED REGARDING A COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A TOBACCO-FREE NORTHEAST KANSAS ENTITLED *YOUNG LUNGS AT PLAY!*, FOR AREA PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS TO BE TOBACCO-FREE. A MOTION TO ADD SIGNS TO THE TOWNSHIP PLAYGROUNDS WAS MADE BY \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY \_\_\_\_\_.

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Township of

\_\_\_\_\_, KS

**CHAPTER 78. PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS**

**ARTICLE I. \_\_\_\_\_ Township Park**

**§ 78-7. Drug-free zone.**

The possession, distribution and/or consumption of alcoholic or intoxicating beverages or illegal drugs and the smoking (lighting up) of cigarettes, pipes and cigars is strictly prohibited throughout the park.

\_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following resolution is adopted:

1. The areas of parks and playgrounds, owned by \_\_\_\_\_ Township, where children are present, are designated tobacco-free.
2. Appropriate signage will be posted designating tobacco-free areas.
3. Violators of this Resolution will be immediately ejected from the tobacco-free area.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ Township Zoning & Codes officer, and such other Township employees or officials designated from time to time by the Board of Supervisors, shall be responsible for enforcement of this resolution.
5. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

---

\_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL DISTRICT

Violations: SC-511 That school district reserves the right to remove from school district premises any individual or community group who fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this policy and established procedures.

In the event an individual or community group violates this policy or the terms under which permission was granted to use school facilities, that individual or community group forfeits the right to submit future written requests to use school district property, unless otherwise decided by the Board.

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Borough of \_\_\_\_\_, KS

Chapter 141: PARKS, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION LANDS

B. The Recreation Board and its agents are also empowered to establish and enforce rules, regulations, and policies governing the use of recreation, park and conservation areas during any event which would come under its jurisdiction, subject to approval by Borough Council. Powers also include the right to govern construction of structures, or remodeling and repair of existing structures or recreation areas after prior approval of construction, remodeling, or rehabilitation by the Borough Council.

§ 141-6 Violations and penalties.

**[Amended 3-6-2007 by Ord. No. 714]**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter, and convicted of the same, shall be liable for a fine of not less than \$100 no more than \$1,000, plus actual costs of prosecution incurred. Where such violation involves removal, destruction, damage, defacing, or befouling recreation, park of conservation areas or the contents thereof, the cost of the repair or replacement shall be charged to such person or group in addition to any fine. Parents or legal guardians shall be financially liable

for the acts of their minor children. Further use of recreation, park and conservation facilities may be denied to violators of this chapter in addition to imposition of fines or costs.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 896 OF 2010**

**AN ORDINANCE OF \_\_\_\_\_ BOROUGH CREATING TOBACCO-FREE ZONES AT  
LOCAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.**

1. Violators will be immediately ejected from such designated tobacco-free areas.
  2. The Mayor shall approve to the enactment of this Ordinance.
- 

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PARKS AND RECREATION TOBACCO-FREE  
POLICY, *YOUNG LUNGS AT PLAY!***

WHEREAS, The City of \_\_\_\_\_ Parks and Recreation Tobacco-Free Policy, *Young Lungs at Play!* is designed to protect the health, welfare, and safety of our park patrons; and

1. Appropriate town owned park land, park facilities, open space or joint town/school district properties will post *Young Lungs at Play!* Signage.
  2. City staff will meet with activity organizations and/or leaders or coaches to discuss the policy and to distribute flyers with the “Tobacco-Free” regulations.
  3. City staff will make periodic observations of activity sites to monitor compliance and help to promote awareness of the tobacco-free policy.
- 

**BOROUGH OF \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, KANSAS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010 – 5**

1. Council hereby adopts as the policy of the Borough of \_\_\_\_\_ that all individuals using tobacco in designated tobacco-free zones shall be ejected immediately from such facility.
2. Council hereby authorizes its elected and appointed officials to take whatever steps are necessary for full participation in and compliance with the *Young Lungs at Play!* Program and/or other such programs of the State of Kansas.

STEP-BY-STEP: MAKING YOUR COMMUNITIES HEALTHIER

# Young Lungs at Play: Preventing Children's Exposure to Secondhand Smoke in Outdoor Play Areas in a Steps to a HealthierNY County

Melissa Jacobson, MPH, R. Allan Beers, Devon Kessler, MPH, Una Diffley, MPH, Shelley Chanler, MA, Hailey Reid, MPH, Joan Facelle, MD, MPH

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## Introduction

The New York State Clean Indoor Air Act (Public Health Law, Article 13-E) restricts tobacco use at nearly all workplaces including school grounds (1). However, no state regulations exist prohibiting tobacco use in outdoor public areas where children play. Adult smoking negatively impacts children by exposing them to secondhand smoke, increasing their potential to choke or burn themselves with lit cigarette butts, and encouraging a negative health behavior (i.e., by seeing adults smoke) (2). In addition, cigarette butts are the most littered item in the world, causing parks and playgrounds to look dirty and incurring clean-up costs for taxpayers (3).

Young Lungs at Play, developed by Steps to a HealthierNY and the Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources, is a successful and easy-to-implement public health campaign that has a substantial impact in the community (4). The goal of the campaign is to encourage local municipalities and organizations to pass regulations banning smoking in outdoor places where children play and to post signs referencing the Young Lungs at Play campaign in these tobacco-free areas. Another goal of this initiative

is to increase the visibility of public health prevention and antismoking messages through the large, appealing signs posted in tobacco-free areas. The campaign has been successful in meeting its goals in many communities and has generated interest among additional organizations and municipalities in creating tobacco-free outdoor play spaces.

The campaign addresses factors contributing to smoking on multiple levels of the socioecological model, including political, interpersonal, and environmental factors. In studying the successes of similar initiatives around the nation, we found that, to be most effective, municipalities must agree to adopt formal laws, ordinances, policies, or resolutions. Young Lungs at Play seeks to address interpersonal factors leading to children's beginning to smoke by changing community norms about smoking and by limiting children's exposure to adults who smoke. It also strives to provide an environment free from smoke and discarded cigarette butts and to increase antismoking messages in the environment through the posting of Young Lungs at Play signs throughout the community.

This article describes the implementation of Young Lungs at Play in Rockland County, New York, a geographically small, suburban county outside of New York City. Rockland County is one of four New York State counties receiving funds from Steps to a HealthierUS, an initiative of the United States Department of Health and Human Services administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (5). Steps to a HealthierNY is an innovative chronic disease prevention program that

employs a community-based and integrated approach to improving physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and tobacco-use prevention to reduce the burden of obesity, diabetes, and asthma.

The smoking rate in Rockland County is 14.1% (6), significantly lower than the state's rate of 20.5% and only slightly above the *Healthy People 2010* target of 12.0% (7). However, the population of Rockland County is diverse, and data suggest that large disparities in smoking rates exist within the county (8). The approach to reducing environmental exposure to tobacco used in the Young Lungs at Play campaign is likely to be well-accepted, regardless of the current attitudes toward smoking in a community, as the best way to begin changing attitudes and norms regarding smoking in places where children are affected. The campaign has now been implemented in three other New York counties with much higher smoking rates and differing attitudes toward smoking. In addition, The Community Survey conducted in Rockland County in May of 2006 showed that, even among respondents who smoke, the majority (51%) indicated they would support a ban on smoking in outdoor places where children play, whereas only a third (36%) of respondents who smoke indicated they would support a ban on smoking in other outdoor public areas (8).

The total cost of the Young Lungs at Play initiative to date is approximately \$18,000, of which partnering organizations contributed \$11,843. The money invested in the program resulted in the posting of 449 signs indicating tobacco-free zones in 148 outdoor play areas, including municipal play areas (e.g., parks, pools, ball fields), schools, childcare centers, faith-based organizations, day camps, and housing complexes. The program was first implemented countywide in June of 2006 and is ongoing. The program steps are listed in the Table and described here in detail for other communities that want to implement Young Lungs at Play.

## Step 1: Assessing community interest

The first step is to assess community interest in regulation that prohibits smoking in outdoor public spaces where children play, such as playgrounds, fields, and parks. To determine the community's readiness to participate in the initiative and persuade municipalities to participate, some form of survey or focus group should be conducted. The Community Survey has been conducted annually since

2001 via telephone by the Rockland County Department of Health using CATI (Computer Aided Technology, Inc, Buffalo Grove, Illinois) to track attitudes, knowledge, and smoking behaviors. The interviews last approximately 11 minutes and are conducted in English and Spanish. A cross-section sample of 1000 households in Rockland County, New York, is generated using a random-digit-dial method, and participants are interviewed by members of a professional survey research and marketing company. The results of the Community Survey conducted in 2006 suggested that the majority of county residents were in favor of outdoor smoking bans, particularly in places where children play (8). Selected data from the survey showed that

- 96.5% of people surveyed indicated that they thought secondhand smoke is harmful;
- 68.8% of people surveyed supported regulation that prohibits smoking in outdoor public spaces where children play, such as playgrounds, fields, and parks;
- 56.3% of respondents indicated they would support regulation that prohibits smoking in other outdoor public spaces, such as walking trails, pools, or picnic areas.

## Step 2: Involving policy makers and community members

The second step of implementing the program is to invite policy makers to participate and to provide education about the harmful effects of smoking in places where children play. Attending a town or village board meeting would be helpful, as would providing decision makers with a sample tobacco-free park resolution (9). Educate decision makers about the negative effects of adults smoking in places where children play, and let them know that

- discarded cigarettes cost taxpayers money (3);
- children who see adults smoking in family-friendly places, such as parks and playgrounds, view the behavior as acceptable (9);
- the community supports legislation prohibiting smoking in outdoor spaces.

Invitational materials should also describe the other benefits municipalities would receive by participating in the program. These materials include educational brochures, free signage to let residents know about the tobacco-free play areas, and public recognition through the media. For people interested in promoting the tobacco-free areas, staff from the health department can provide a community awareness event for residents.

## Step 3: Developing the signs

Step three of the process is to develop signs to be posted in the tobacco-free areas and pilot test them with community leaders. The signs are made of metal, are weather-resistant, measure 12 in by 18 in, and are in full color. The signs were created around a graphic of a girl on a swing developed by the Tobacco Control Section of the California Department of Health Services (10). Each municipality can customize the signs by including a town or village logo and can request as many signs as needed. Funds for sign production (approximately \$20 per sign) were contributed by the POWR (Putnam, Orange, Westchester, and Rockland counties) Against Tobacco Coalition. The artwork and graphics can be used by other communities replicating the Young Lungs at Play campaign. (Credit for the artwork should be given to the Tobacco Control Section of the California Department of Health Services and the Rockland County Department of Health.)

## Step 4: Holding an opening event

The next step is to determine places that are ready to pass a resolution and invite these community members to a kick-off event with local media and officials at which they will receive the signs to post in their areas. The campaign had its first success in November 2005 when the county of Rockland passed a resolution to create a tobacco-free playground area at Haverstraw Bay Park, the most used of the county's park facilities and the only county park with a playground. In partnership with the county of Rockland's Office of the County Executive, the Rockland County Department of Health, the Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources, and the POWR Against Tobacco Coalition, all municipalities in Rockland were invited in the spring of 2006 to join the county of Rockland in the Young Lungs at Play campaign. Of the five towns and 19 villages in Rockland County, five municipalities (i.e., the towns of Orangetown and Stony Point and the villages of Nyack, Pomona, and Sloatsburg) adopted a resolution in support of Young Lungs at Play.



**Figure.** Young Lungs at Play campaign sign, Rockland County, New York, 2006.

## Step 5: Encouraging other communities to join the campaign

The next step in the process is to contact other municipalities, inform them of the successes of these early adopters, and encourage them to pass their own resolutions. After the kick-off event, other municipalities were again invited to participate in the program and offered assistance. In addition, an ongoing "Join Us" postcard campaign, in which county residents encourage their local municipalities to adopt Young Lungs at Play, is in place. As a result, an additional seven municipalities (i.e., the towns of Clarkstown, Haverstraw, and Ramapo and the villages of Haverstraw, Montebello, Suffern, and Wesley Hills) have joined the campaign.

The program was expanded to include other organizations with outdoor pools or play areas. To date, 15 childcare centers, 11 apartment and condominium complexes, a day camp, and a church have joined the campaign. As a direct result of the program's implementation, three school districts in Rockland County (with a total of 27 elementary schools and one middle school) and three additional elementary schools are posting the signs, increasing the visibility of antismoking messages in the county.

## Step 6: Promoting the efforts of participating communities

The next step is to promote the efforts of the participating communities using, for example, an advertisement in the local newspaper or other media outlet. To recognize communities that adopted resolutions in support of tobacco-free outdoor play areas, "thank-you" advertisements have been placed in four print media outlets. An ongoing campaign in which residents sign "thank-you" postcards that are sent to the town or village board is under way. These efforts are done both to educate the community about the initiatives and the areas affected and to promote the communities that have taken a step toward protecting children from the harmful effects of tobacco.



## Step 7: Continuing to promote the campaign

Finally, continuing to promote the campaign and offering materials and support to interested communities or organizations is important to the continued success of the program. In addition to encouraging municipalities and housing complexes to create tobacco-free play areas, the campaign is now being promoted to day camps in the county. The focus of this initiative is expanding to include not only outdoor play spaces but also other outdoor spaces such as bus shelters.

The campaign is being implemented in three other counties in New York State: Broome, Chataqua, and Jefferson. These counties are diverse in geography and population and have been successful in promoting the Young Lungs at Play campaign, despite higher smoking rates (Broome County, 24.3%; Chataqua County, 23.6%; Jefferson County, 22.4%) (6). Although these counties are in the beginning stages of implementing the campaign, they have created many tobacco-free play areas and continue to recruit municipalities and organizations within their communities.

## Conclusion

For a relatively low investment of time and money, the Young Lungs at Play campaign has been successful at increasing the visibility of antismoking messages and modeling good health habits for children. We hope that in the future, the Young Lungs at Play signs will be posted in outdoor play areas throughout the country and will serve as a reminder that smoking is not acceptable or allowed where children play.

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## Table

Table. Steps to Implementing Young Lungs at Play, Rockland County, New York, June 2006

Step No.	Description
1	Assess community interest in regulation that prohibits smoking in outdoor public spaces where children play, such as playgrounds, fields, and parks.
2	Invite policy makers to participate in the program and provide education about the harmful effects of smoking in places where children play.
3	Develop signs to be posted in the tobacco-free areas and pilot test them with community leaders.
4	Determine communities that are ready to pass a resolution, and invite members to a kick-off event with local media and officials at which they will receive the signs to post in their areas.
5	Contact other municipalities and inform them of the successes of these early adopters. Encourage them to pass their own resolutions.
6	Promote the efforts of the participating communities through an advertisement in the local newspaper or other media outlet.
7	Continue to promote the campaign and offer materials and support to interested communities or organizations.

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